

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Attention: News Director  
For Immediate Release  
February 21, 2007**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DAVID L. HUBER  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
Western District of Kentucky**

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**CALIFORNIA MAN CHARGED WITH AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT  
AND CREDIT CARD FRAUD**

***– Used counterfeit drivers license and credit cards***

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that a federal Grand Jury in Louisville, **returned an Indictment** charging **LOUIS E. FRANKLIN, a/k/a Jeffrey Kleeman, a/k/a James McVaugh**, age 52, of Buena Vista, California, with conspiracy, identity theft, access device fraud, and entry of the secure area of an airport under false pretenses.

The Indictment charges that on or about and between December 21, 2006, and December 29, 2006, **Franklin** traveled from California to Louisville, Kentucky, on at least two occasions using counterfeit California drivers licenses in alias names to do so, and while in possession of at least seven counterfeit Capitol One credit cards, **Franklin** rented a car at Budget Car Rental using one of the credit cards, and stayed at a Marriott Hotel using one of his aliases. On December 28, 2006, **Franklin** drove to Jeffersonville, Indiana, where he went to at least five area banks and obtained, or attempted to obtain, cash advances using the counterfeit credit cards. **Franklin** returned to Louisville the same day where he visited several locations of Western Union before he succeeded in making two wire transfers of \$4,000 each to Los Angeles, California.

The Indictment further charges that on or about December 21, 2006, **Franklin**, possessed

and used the identity of another person.

The Indictment further charges that on or about and between December 21, 2006, and December 29, 2006, **Franklin**

The Indictment also charges that on or about and between December 21, 2006, and December 28, 2006, **Franklin** entered a secure area of an airport using fraud and false pretenses.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are 27 years imprisonment, a \$1,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of not more than 3 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Marisa J. Ford, and it was investigated by the United States Secret Service.

**Franklin** is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on February 26, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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